

## STROMBUS (TRICORNIS) OLDI NEW SPECIES

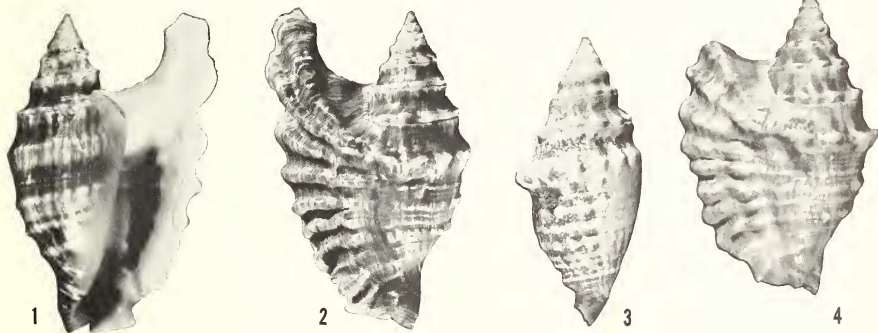
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American Museum of Natural History*Strombus oldi* new species

(Pl. 294, figs. 1-4)

*Range*—Known only from the Somalian coast of East Africa.*Remarks*—Although the fauna of the Somalian coast is not well known, it seems remarkable that this very distinctive species has not been previously discovered. It was first brought to light by my associate, Mr. William E. Old, Jr., who was curating a small collection of marine mollusks that was labeled "50 miles north to 60 miles south of Obbia, Italian Somaliland [Republic of Somalia], East Africa, November 21, 1956." Recently, other specimens have been found near Mogadishu [Mogadiscio]. One of these was kindly forwarded by Mrs. Orville R. Davis for examination.Of the known species of *Strombus*, the shell of *S. oldi* most closely resembles *Strombus (Tricornis) sinuatus* Humphrey, 1786, but it lacks the 3 or 4tongue-like blades on the upper end of the outer lip and a thickened outer lip. In spire angle and nodulation and in the spiral ornamentation of the shell, *S. oldi* closely resembles *Lambis (Millepes) digitata* (Perry, 1811) from the Indian Ocean, but lacks the strong labial and parietal wall ornamentation of that *Lambis*. This new species is characterized by the wing-like projection on the upper end of the outer lip, by the relatively high, noded spire, by the strong, rounded cords on the back of the outer lip, by the dark-brown blotches within the smoothish aperture, and by the rich chestnut coloring of the outer shell.*Strombus solitarius* Perry, 1811 (Arcana, London, vol. 1, part 2, signature Dd<sup>1</sup>, [pl. 52] is a poorly illustrated and inadequately described species from "Africa and the East Indies," and, although somewhat resembling *S. oldi*, is undoubtedly a synonym of the Caribbean *S. gallus* Linné, 1758, by virtue of the lower spire, the larger and fewer shoulder knobs and the slender, narrow wing-like projection on the upper end of the outer lip. Perry's locality is undoubtedly erroneous.

I take pleasure in naming this new species in honor

Plate 294. *Strombus oldi* Emerson (new species). Figs. 1, 2, holotype, 112 mm. in length, ANSP no. 299730, Figs. 3, 4,

paratype, 109 mm. in length, AMNH no. 97346. Both from Republic of Somalia, northwest Indian Ocean.

of Mr. Old, who immediately recognized the significance of his discovery.

*Description* — Adult shell 95 to 112 mm. (about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches) in length, solid, moderately heavy, with a dark-brown stain within the aperture and with 8 to 10 strong, nodular raised ribs between the anal and siphonal canals on the back of the outer lip. Color of shell is whitish with a pattern of narrow axial bands of yellowish brown on ventral portion of the body whorl and with an overlay of yellowish brown interrupted by the ribs and nodules on the dorsum. Whorls number 7 to 10; nuclear whorls are worn off. Post-nuclear whorls are ornamented by numerous, low, whitish knobs on the periphery and are colored with axial blotches between the knobs and on the concave portions of the whorls. The knobs are more prominent on the later whorls and are largest on the body whorl, which is also ornamented on the dorsum with numerous rows of smaller spiral ridges, two of which possess rounded beads. Between the spiral ridges are fine spiral threads. Parietal wall is weakly glazed. Columella is stained with dark-brown and is smooth except for three small

uplications at the upper end of the columella, adjacent to the anal canal. Interior of the outer lip is thickened in the region where the previous lip terminated. Siphonal canal is short, relatively broad and slightly twisted to the right. Stromboid notch is moderately deep and is slightly flaring to the right. Operculum, periostracum and soft parts are unknown.

*Measurements (mm.)* —

length	width	no. whorls	
112	73	10+	holotype from Mogadiscio
109	72	8+	paratype, AMNH no. 97346
105	47	8+	paratype, AMNM no. 97346b
95	65	7+	paratype, AMNM no. 97346a

*Types and Records* — The type locality is "Mogadiscio, Republic of Somalia." It was obtained by M. Ramazzotti, and given to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (no. 299730) by Mrs. Orville Davis. Paratypes, all from the vicinity of Obbia, are in the American Museum of Natural History (New York); AMNH nos. 97346, 97346a, and 97346b (immature).

Published by  
THE DEPARTMENT OF MOLLUSKS  
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia  
19th and the Parkway  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania